



ROY THOMAS, ARVELL JONES & PABLO MARCOS

75¢

46

JUNE 85

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ALL-STAR SQUADRON

**BARON
BLITZKRIEG**
PULLS OUT ALL
THE STOPS!
PLUS **DR FATE**
PIN-UP by
DAN
JURGENS!

ARVELL
JONES
or
PABLO
MARCOS



THE HUNGER DOGS: YOU CAN NEVER KILL THEM ALL.



**JACK KIRBY'S
CROWNING ACHIEVEMENT.
A 64-PAGE GRAPHIC NOVEL.
FROM DC COMICS.
WHERE LEGENDS LIVE.**



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1942—a world at war! And against the forces of Axis darkness, the mightiest heroes of Earth-Two have banded together, under direct orders of the President, as the

ALL-STAR SQUADRON

ALL RIGHT,
BOYS AND GIRLS--
THIS IS WHY
WE'RE HERE!

BARON
BLITZKRIEG AND
HIS BUDDY ZYKLON
DIDN'T JUST COST
AMERICA ONE LIBERTY
BELL YESTERDAY,
THEY COST US TWO!

EXTRA!
NEW YORK EAGLE
LIBERTY BELL
STOLEN IN
PHILADELPHIA
BY NAZI AGENTS
GUARD TOM
REVERE SLAIN
ALL-STAR
SQUADRON TEAM DEFEATED AT
INDEPENDENCE HALL

THE ONE
THEY TOOK FROM
INDEPENDENCE
HALL--

--AND LIBBY LAWRENCE,
WHO SAYS SHE'LL NEVER AGAIN
WEAR THE MASK AND
COSTUME OF
LIBERTY BELLE!

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NOW JUST HOLD
YOUR HORSES,
HAWKMAN! MAYBE
LIBBY'S ALL THROUGH
PUTTING ON A
FANCY COSTUME--
BUT THAT DOESN'T
MEAN YOU CAN CALL
HER A QUITTER!

COOL DOWN,
FIREBRAND! HE
DIDN'T SAY
ANYTHING
CLOSE TO THAT.

STILL, WE COULD
TELL THAT IT PUT HER
THROUGH HADES--
SEEING HER OLD
FRIEND TOM REVERE
MURDERED BY
THAT PAIR OF AXIS
HOODLUMS!*

DON'T FORGET,
HAWK--THE LADY
SAID SHE'D TAKE
CARE OF THAT
LITTLE MATTER
HERSELF--ONLY
AS LIBBY
LAWRENCE!

AND IF ANYBODY
IN CIVVIES CAN
DO IT--SHE CAN!

NO ARGUMENT
ROBOTMAN, BUT
THE PRESTIGE OF
THE ALL-STAR
SQUADRONS AT
STAKE HERE,
TOO.

IF
NAZI
GET
WITH
SIGNAL
CRIMINALS
THIS
COULD
THAT
ORDER
DOWN
THE
DEC

PHILADELPHIA IT TOLLS FOR THREE

ROY THOMAS ARVELL JONES PABLO MARCOS
WRITER/EDITOR PENCILLER EMBELLISHER

DANN THOMAS GENE D'ANGELO
CO-PLOTTER COLORIST COO LETTER

*LAST ISSUE--R.

COOL DOWN, FIREBRAND! HE DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING CLOSE TO THAT.

STILL, WE COULD TELL THAT IT PUT HER THROUGH MADES-- SEEING HER OLD FRIEND TOM REVERE MURDERED BY THAT PAIR OF AX'S HOODLUMS.

IF ONLY DIANA, THE LANTERN, AND I HAD GOT THERE A MINUTE SOONER--!

BUT YOU DIDN'T, FLASH. SO NOW WE'VE GOT TO PICK UP THE PIECES--SEE IF WE CAN TRACK DOWN BLITZKRIEG AND HIS FAST NEW FRIEND.

AND IF ANYBODY IN CIVVIES CAN DO IT--SHE CAN!

NO ARGUMENT, ROBOTMAN, BUT THE PRESTIGE OF THE ALL-STAR SQUADRONS AT STAKE HERE, TOO.

IF THOSE NAZI NASTIES GET AWAY WITH THIS--IT'LL SIGNAL EVERY CRIMINAL IN THIS COUNTRY THAT LAW-AND-ORDER WENT DOWN THE TUBES THE DAY WE DECLARED WAR!

NAZI AGENTS STOLEN BY THE ALL-STAR SQUADRON TEAM DEFENDERS INDEPENDENCE HALL

"And therefore never send to know for whom the bell tolls..."

--John Donne, circa 1623.

PHILADELPHIA-- ALL FOR THEE!

LO
COS
ISHER

DANN THOMAS GENE D'ANGELO CODY
CO-PILOTTER COLORIST LETTERER



LOOK, I'M JUST FILLING IN AS CHAIRMAN HERE--SO IF ANYBODY'S GOT A BRIGHT IDEA ABOUT WHERE WE GO FROM HERE, THEY'RE WELCOME TO JUMP RIGHT IN.

JOHNNY QUICK? HOW ABOUT YOU?



YEAH, SURE--I'M JUST CHOCK-FULL OF IDEAS. LIKE HOW, IF MY FEET WERE AS FAST AS MY MOUTH, OLD TOM'D BE ALIVE RIGHT NOW.

COME OFF IT, JOHNNY. NOBODY'S BLAMING YOU.

NOBODY BUT ME!



LOOK, I--I LOVE THAT WOMAN, HAWK! TOM REVERE--WELL, HE HE WAS LIKE FAMILY TO HER SINCE HER DAD DIED IN POLAND IN '39--

--AND I LET THAT ZYKLOV CREEP STOP ME FROM SAVING HIM!



HOW'D YOU LIKE THAT ALBATROSS AROUND YOUR NECK?

JOHNNY, WE'D DO BETTER IF BOTH YOU AND LIBBY WOULD EXPEND ALL THAT ENERGY ON FINDING BARON BLITZKRIEG.

CHECK! HE DIDN'T DESTROY THE BELL THEN AND THERE--SO HE MUST HAVE SOME PLAN FOR IT UP HIS SLEEVE.

HARD TO TELL WHAT IT COULD BE--BESIDES A PROPAGANDA PLOY.



DANETTE--YOU SHOULDN'T EVEN BE HERE. FOR GOD'S SAKE, IT HASN'T BEEN MUCH MORE THAN 24 HOURS SINCE YOUR OWN FATHER WAS KILLED...

BUT I'M POSITIVE THE NAZIS WHO MURDERED HIM ARE SAFELY OUT OF THE COUNTRY BY NOW. MAYBE--MAYBE I CAN HELP LIBBY, AT LEAST.



TARANTULA'S RIGHT, BRANDY. YOU'RE NO GOOD TO US HERE.

YOUR PLACE IS AT YOUR MOTHER'S SIDE. AND DIDN'T YOU SAY EVEN YOUR BROTHER ROD WAS FLYING IN FROM THAT FRISCO HOSPITAL?



THERE'S STILL ONE THING THAT BOTHERS ME ABOUT THIS WHOLE BUSINESS.

DIDN'T JOHNNY SAY THAT BARON BLITZ--IS BLIND?

WHAT'S A BLIND MAN DOING STEALING THE LIBERTY BELL?

CONTINUED ON 3RD PAGE FOLLOWING.

FIND YOUR WAY TO THE NEWTONS® TREASURE CHEST!!



DISCOVER FRUIT CHEWY NEWTONS COOKIES.

THANKS TO
**AMAZING
HEROES**

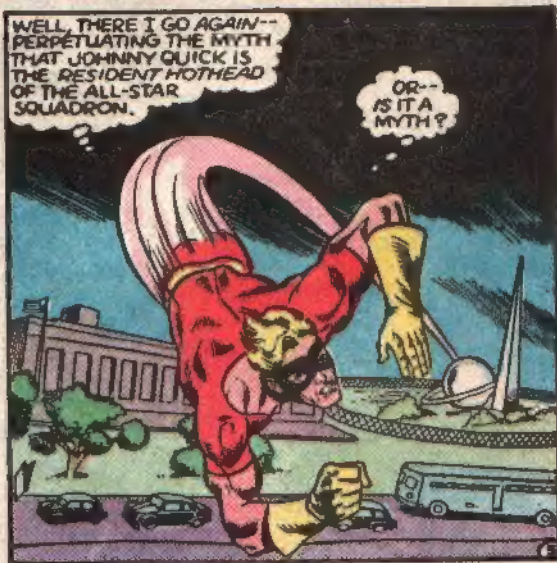
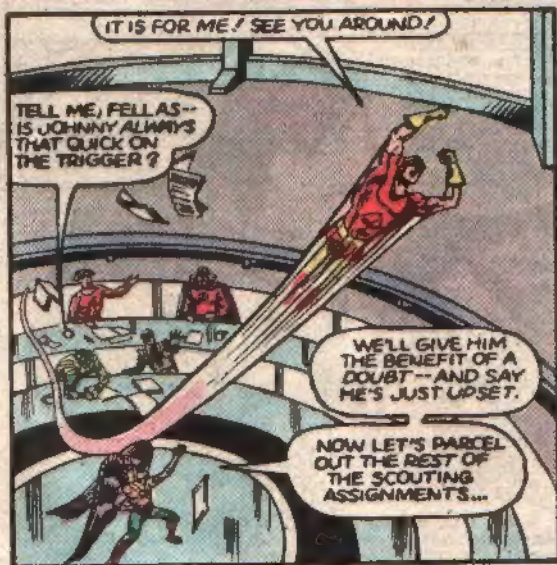
BEST 10 BOOKS OF 1984

- | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| ① SWAMP THING* | ⑥ X-MEN |
| ② JON SABLE | ⑦ BLUE DEVIL* |
| ③ AMERICAN FLAGG | ⑧ ATARI** FORCE |
| ④ TEEN TITANS* | ⑨ DR. STRANGE |
| ⑤ FANTASTIC FOUR | ⑩ POWER PACK |



*BEST BOOKS OF 1984, PER R. A. JONES, AMAZING HEROES # 63

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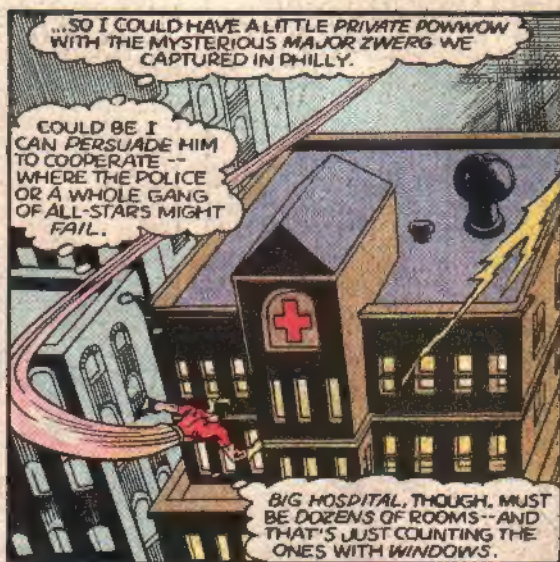




LORD KNOWS, I'M NO EASY-DOES-IT CROSBY TYPE... LEAST OF ALL WHERE BELLE'S CONCERNED.

HMMM. LOOKS LIKE A REAL STORM BREWING DOWN SOUTH.

ANYWAY, THIS TIME, AT LEAST, I WAS JUST USING MY PATENTED TEMPER AS A SMOKE SCREEN...



...SO I COULD HAVE A LITTLE PRIVATE POWWOW WITH THE MYSTERIOUS MAJOR ZWERG WE CAPTURED IN PHILLY.

COULD BE I CAN PERSUADE HIM TO COOPERATE -- WHERE THE POLICE OR A WHOLE GANG OF ALL-STAR'S MIGHT FAIL.

BIG HOSPITAL, THOUGH. MUST BE DOZENS OF ROOMS--AND THAT'S JUST COUNTING THE ONES WITH WINDOWS.



SHOULD TAKE ME ALL OF THIRTY SECONDS TO CHECK 'EM ALL OUT.

NOPE, HE'S NOT IN THERE.



OR THERE.

DON'T MIND ME, MAC.



THERE, EITHER.

GOOD THING I DON'T HAVE A PEEPING-TOM STREAK IN ME, THOUGH.

I'D BE A REGULAR MENACE TO PRIVACY.



WHOA! THERE HE--HUH?

NEIN--NEIN! PLEASE--LEAVE ME ALONE!

HAS HE SPOTTED ME ALREADY?



I'LL LEAVE YOU ALONE WHEN YOU TELL ME WHERE BLITZKRIEG AND ZYKLON ARE HIDING OUT--NOT BEFORE!

H-HOW DID YOU GET IN HERE? THE POLICE SAID--NO VISITORS!

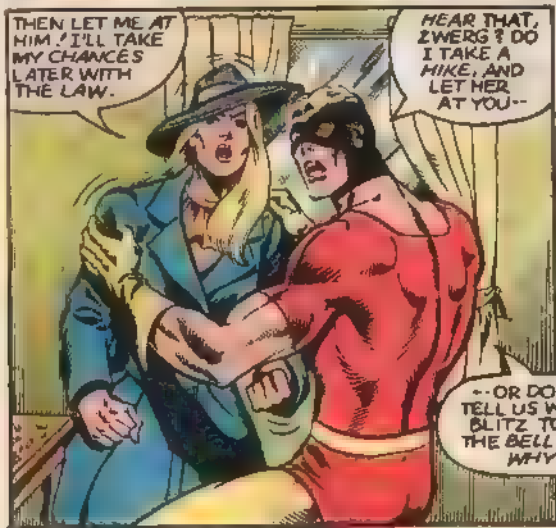
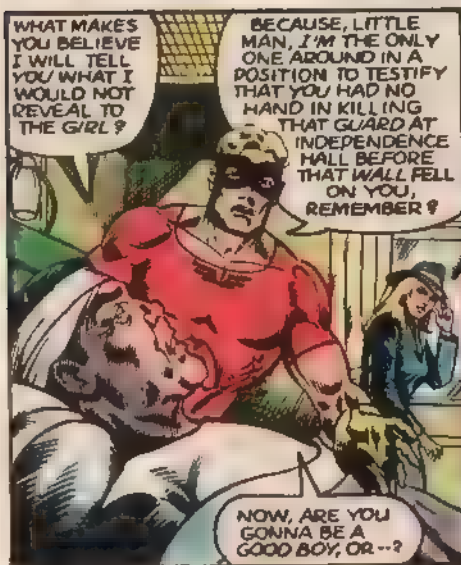
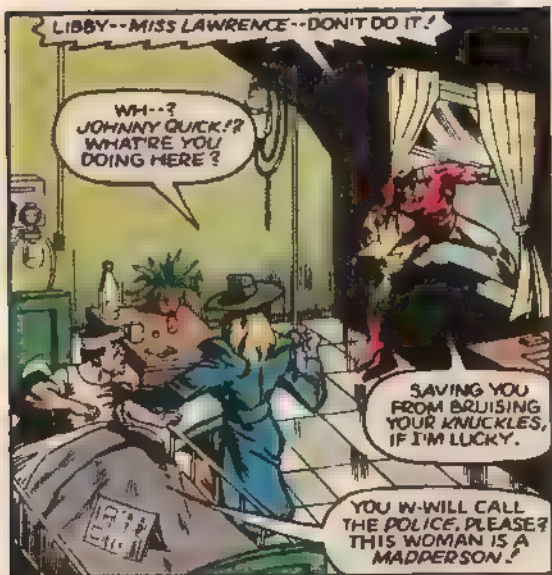
GOOD GRIEF! IT'S SOMEBODY ELSE THREATENING HIM! IN FACT--



NEVER UNDERESTIMATE WHAT A PRESS CARD AND A WORLD-FAMOUS FACE CAN GET YOU, WHEN YOU'RE REALLY DETERMINED--AND I AM!

--IT'S LIBBY!

NOW, I'VE NEVER STRUCK ANYBODY SMALLER THAN MYSELF BEFORE--NOT EVEN A NAZI--BUT SO HELP ME--



AFTER ALL, WHY SHOULD I SHIELD BARON BLITZKRIEG? HE LEFT ME THERE--TO DIE, OR BE CAPTURED--AFTER ALL I HAVE DONE FOR HIM!

WHICH IS WHAT?

SURELY YOU RECALL THIS PAST NEW YEAR'S EVE--WHEN YOUR COLLEAGUE COMMANDER STEEL ATTACKED BOTH ROOSEVELT AND CHURCHILL IN THE WHITE HOUSE ITSELF.

ISSUE No. 9 -- R.T.

SURE! STEEL FIGURED IT WAS BLITZ'S DOING-- BUT WE NEVER KNEW FOR CERTAIN

"WELL, HE WAS RIGHT, AND WHEN THE GIRL FIREBRAND HURLED A BALL OF FLAME AT THE MASKED MAN'S FACE--

--BLITZKRIEG, WHO SAW EVERY THING THROUGH STEEL'S EYES AT THAT MOMENT, WAS SUDDENLY STRUCK HYSTERICALLY BLIND!

"IT WAS ALL IN HIS MIND, OF COURSE-- BECAUSE HE WAS REMINDED OF THE DAY WHEN A JEWISH PRISONER HAD FLUNG ACID AT HIM--AND SCARRED HIS FACE FOR ALL TIME.

SINCE THAT DAY, HE HAS BEEN A MAN POSSESSED CARING ONLY TO RESTORE HIS SIGHT."

THE WORDS CONTINUE TO FLOW, BEHIND CLOSED DOORS, WHILE THOSE OUTSIDE SUSPECT NOTHING.

AND EVEN LIBBY LAWRENCE AND JOHNNY QUICK ARE STARTLED--

WHEN THEY LEARN WHAT BLITZKRIEG'S BLINDNESS HAS TO DO WITH THE LIBERTY BELL.

"WELL, IT WAS DER BARON WHO WAS BEHIND IT ALL. FOR, WHILE STEEL HAD BEEN HELD CAPTIVE IN POLAND, EARLIER, HE HAD BEEN BRAINWASHED SO THAT BLITZKRIEG COULD CONTROL HIM-- EVEN FROM MILES AWAY.

"HOW ELSE COULD STEEL HAVE FOUND THE STAMINA, THE STRENGTH, TO FIGHT SO MANY OF YOU--EVEN THE METAL-FISTED ROBOTMAN?

SO THAT'S IT! JOHNNY--WE'VE GOT TO--

EASY, LIBBY. YOU WANT TO TIP OFF ZWERG TO WHO YOU REALLY ARE?

ER--I MEAN--YOU ALL STARS CAN DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT--CAN'T YOU?

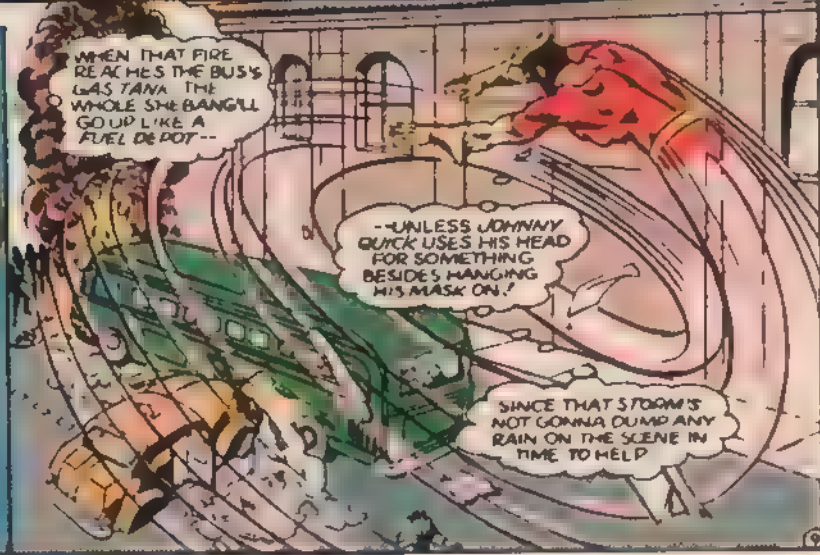
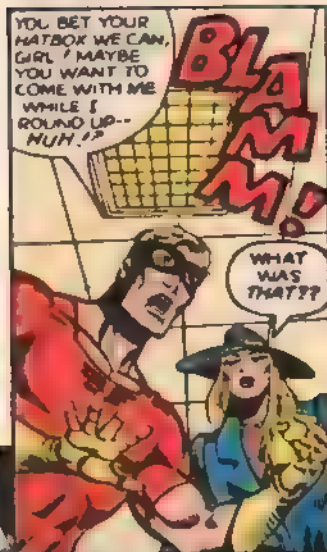
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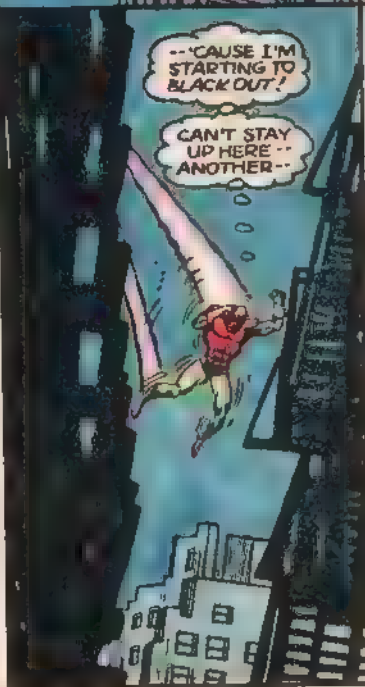
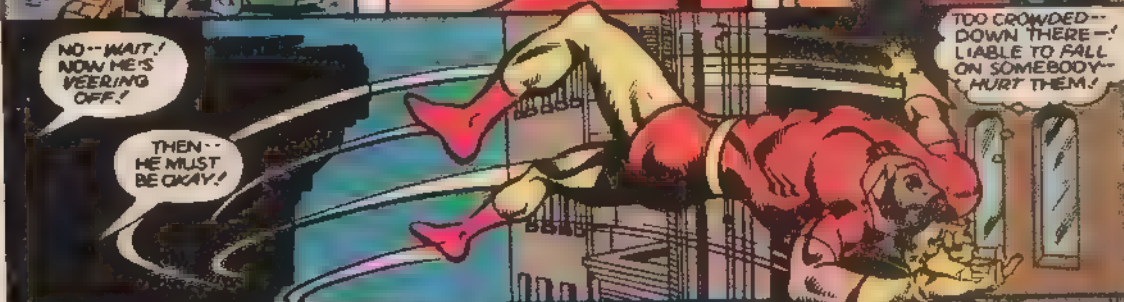
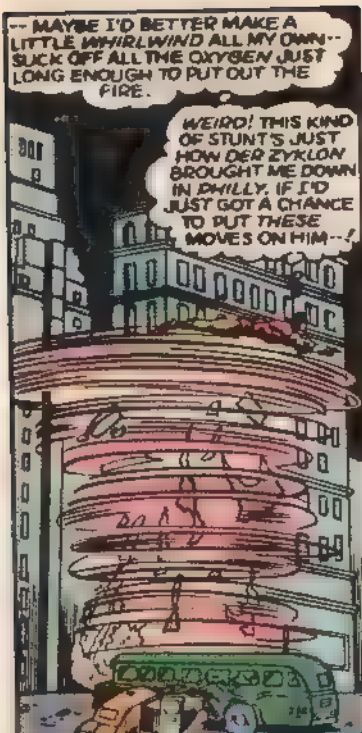
"Shadamedafas"

(I TRAVELED 369,484,278,025 MILES FOR REESE'S PIECES.)



So he buys quite a few to take back with him. He says his mother loves the out-of-this-world peanut butter taste of Reese's Pieces and so does XYTOPUV, his cousin.





I APPRECIATE THE LIFT TO PHILADELPHIA, HAWKGIRL.

LUCKY FOR ME YOU CALLED MY SERVICE AND FOUND OUT WHERE LIBBY LAWRENCE WAS.

LUCKIER STILL MY WINGS AND NINTH-METAL BELT ARE DOING ALL THE WORK. JUST BECAUSE A GIRL CAN FLY DOESN'T MEAN SHE'S STRONG ENOUGH TO PLAY PASSENGER PLANE ALL BY HER LONESOME.

BUT I THOUGHT YOU WEREN'T GOING TO PLAY MYSTERY-WOMAN ANYMORE, LIBBY.

I WAS WRONG. I'VE GOT TO DO IT THE ONE LAST TIME--TO FINISH OFF BLITZKRIEG AND ZYLON BEFORE I PUT PAID TO LIBERTY BELLS.

SEE WHAT YOU MEAN. BUT ARE YOU SURE WE SHOULDN'T CLUE THE OTHER ALL-SPURS IN ON WHAT'S UP?

HAWKMAN, FOR ONE, IS GOING TO BE STEAMED WHEN HE FINDS OUT I HELPED YOU GRAB STING.

DO WHAT YOU'VE GOT TO. BUT PLEASE, ONLY AFTER YOU DROP ME OFF.

FAIR ENOUGH. THAT'LL GIVE YOU FIRST SHOT AT THOSE RATS WHO KILLED YOUR OLD FRIEND.

THANKS FOR THAT, SHERA. TOM REVERE WAS SOMEONE SPECIAL TO ME.

I'VE GOT TO DO THIS MYSELF.

WY--THE WIND GIVING YOU TROUBLE?

WE'RE HEADING INTO A REAL STORMFRONT OVER THE CITY OF BROTHERLY LOVE.

HOW DO I TELL SHERA I JUST KEEPT SEEING IMAGES OF TOM REVERE--ALL MIXED UP, SOMEHOW, WITH THOSE DREAMS I'VE BEEN HAVING LATELY ABOUT MY ANCESTOR, MISS LIBERTY?

SHE DIED TRYING TO RESCUE THE LIBERTY BELL, TOO.

IS THIS THE NIGHT I JOIN HER--IN DEATH?

LAST ISSUE.--R.

YOU DIDN'T NOTICE BEFORE NOW?

SOMEWHERE IN ONE OF THE LESS
PALATABLE PARTS OF PHILADELPHIA



THE
STORM
ZYKLON--
IT IS
NEARLY
UPON
US!

HURRY WITH
THE FINAL
PREPARATIONS!
MACH SCHNELL!

MIKE MIKE

EVEN FOR ONE WHOSE
FORTE IS SPEED, HERR
BARON, THERE ARE
SOME THINGS WHICH
CANNOT BE UNDULY
HASTENED.

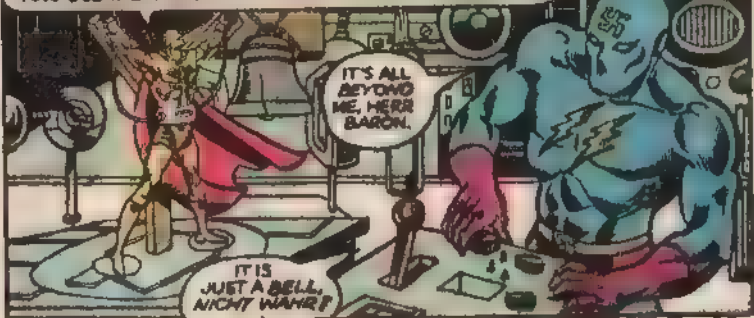


BUT
THEY MUST--
THEY MUST!

EVEN BEFORE I FOLLOWED
LIBERTY BELL TO THE
HEIRLOOM WHICH IS HER
NAME SAKE, I SENSED
THERE WAS AN INTIMATE
CONNECTION BETWEEN
THEM.

THE FEW HOURS SINCE
WE CAPTURED THE
BELL HAVE SUFFICED
FOR ME TO BE SURE
THAT I, TOO, CAN TAP
INTO ITS STRANGE
VIBRATIONS--

--AND USE THEM TO END MY PSYCHOLOGICAL BLINDNESS!



IT'S ALL
BEYOND
ME, HERR
BARON.

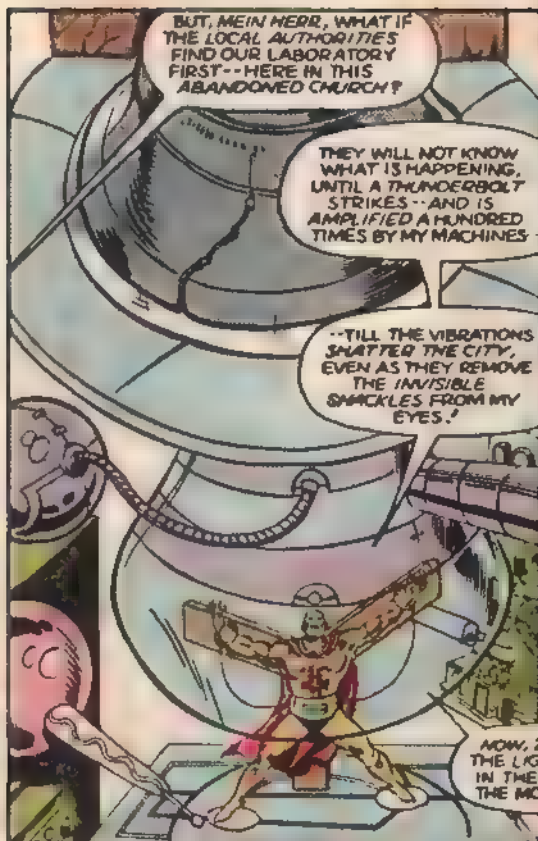
IT IS
JUST A BELL,
NICHT WAHR?

AH! DO YOU THINK
I WOULD STAND HERE,
LIKE ONE ABOUT TO BE
CRUCIFIED BY
LIGHTNING, FOR A
MERE BELL?



THERE IS SOMETHING POWERFUL
BEYOND WORDS THAT RESIDES
WITHIN THE BELL, ZYKLON--LIKE
A BATTERY CHARGING FOR
THE PAST 200 YEARS.

I DO NOT PRETEND TO
UNDERSTAND IT FULLY--BUT
I AM PREPARED TO HARNESS
THAT POWER--TONIGHT!



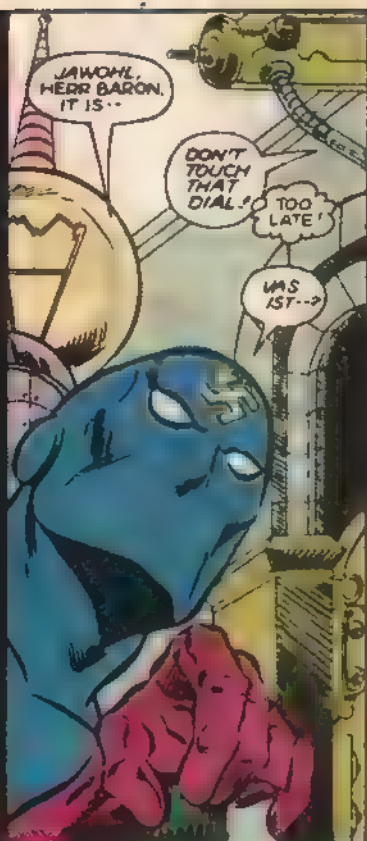
BUT, MEIN HERR, WHAT IF THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES FIND OUR LABORATORY FIRST--HERE IN THIS ABANDONED CHURCH?

THEY WILL NOT KNOW WHAT IS HAPPENING, UNTIL A THUNDERBOLT STRIKES--AND IS AMPLIFIED A HUNDRED TIMES BY MY MACHINES

--TILL THE VIBRATIONS SHATTER THE CITY, EVEN AS THEY REMOVE THE INVISIBLE SPARKLES FROM MY EYES!

NOW, ZYKLON, ACTIVATE THE LIGHTNING-ATTRACTOR IN THE TOWER--BEFORE THE MOMENT HAS PASSED!

KRAKK!



JAWOHL, HERR BARON, IT IS--

DON'T TOUCH THAT DIAL!

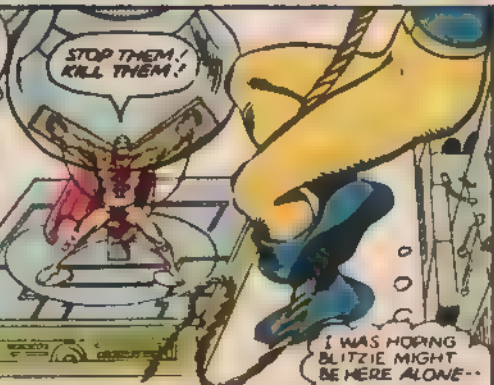
TOO LATE!

WAS IST--?



I DON'T KNOW WHY, BELLE, BUT SOMEHOW I GET THE IDEA THAT GUYS A NAZI, DON'T YOU?

DO NOT FEAR, HERR BARON--IT IS ONLY TWO YANKEE FRAULEINS!



STOP THEM! KILL THEM!

I WAS HOPEING BLITZIE MIGHT BE HERE ALONE--



--BUT I'LL TAKE ON BOTH OF THEM, IF I HAVE TO!

ZYKLON!

ZYKLON! I KNOW THAT VOICE!

KRAAS!

I'LL GET HER, MEIN HERR!

DON'T SAY ANY MORE THAN YOU HAVE TO, HAWK-GIRL! NO NEED TIPPING OUR WHEREABOUTS TO BLITZKRIEG



I WILL--

THOUGHT HE MIGHT BE
FEELING A BIT COCKY, AFTER
TAKING OUT JOHNNY SO
EASILY BEFORE... SO I
TIMED MY LEAP AWAY TO
THE HALF-SECOND!

SIDE ARKING OF
JOHNNY
QUICK...

DOESN'T SEEM NATURAL--TEARING
UP THIS PLACE WITHOUT A FEW
TAUNTS LIKE CARTER AND I
ALWAYS TOSS OUT.

SMASH!

AARRGH--!

AND OTHER
HURLING
OBJECTS!

BUT THIS TIME
AROUND, I'M
TAKING ORDERS
FROM BELLE

SHERA'S GOING GREAT
GUNS SO FAR BUT I
PROBABLY SHOULD'VE
MADE HER WING IT
BACK TO NEW YORK,
LIKE I'D PLANNED

WHEN IT COMES TO
THIS KIND OF STUFF
SHE'S JUST A
DILETTANTE--AND
I'M OUT FOR BLOOD!

NEIN, FRAULEIN!
I WILL TAKE THAT
IF YOU DON'T
MIND!

OHMM--!

SO

SERVES
ME RIGHT!
I'D LET
MY MIND
WANDER

WELL, ONE
WELL PLACED
AXE BLOW
OUGHT TO--

WELL, WHAT'RE
YOU WAITING
FOR, SIEGFRIED?

GO ON AND
FINISH ME OFF
WITH THAT AXE,
LIKE A GOOD
LITTLE NAZI
BUTCHER!

I DON'T

REALLY
THINK

I
NEED

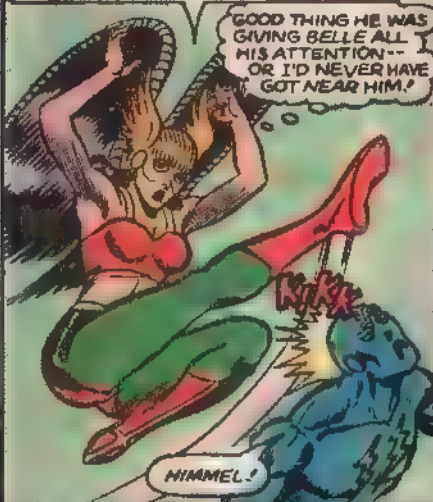
GOOD LORD! IT'S LIKE
FIGHTING JOHNNY
QUICK!

DO YOU?

THING

SUCH A

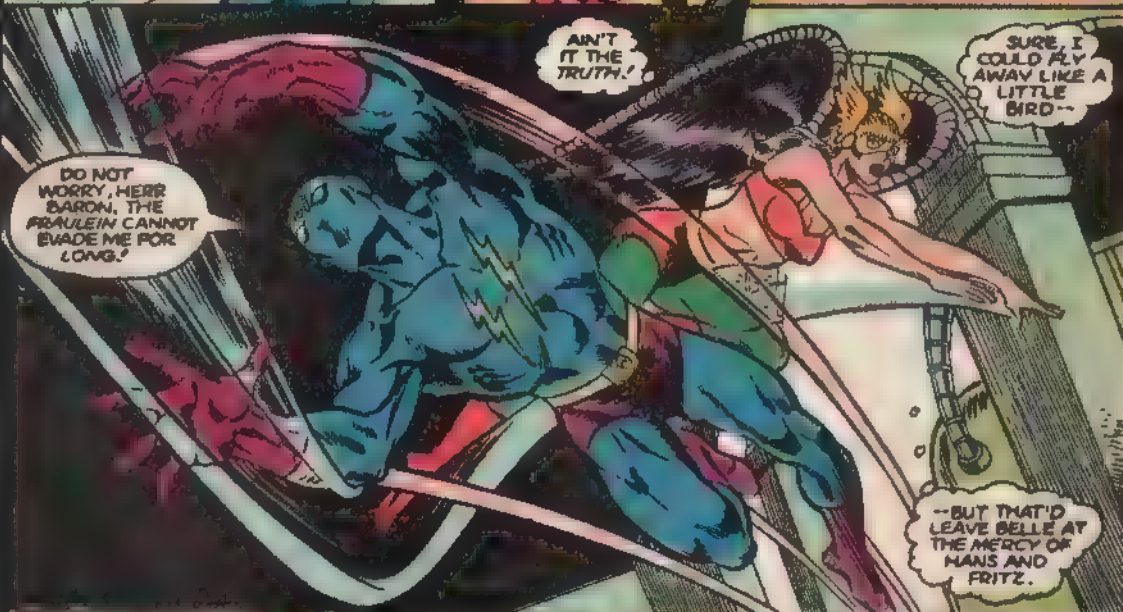
WHAT YOU NEED, SPEED DEMON, IS A GOOD LESSON IN HOW TO TREAT A LADY.*



"GOOD THING HE WAS GIVING BELLE ALL HIS ATTENTION-- OR I'D NEVER HAVE GOT NEAR HIM."

HIMMEL!

ZYLON, YOU SCHWEIN-HUND! GET THAT WOMAN I HEAR FLYING AROUND-- BEFORE SHE DEMOLISHES MY PRECIOUS APPARATUS!

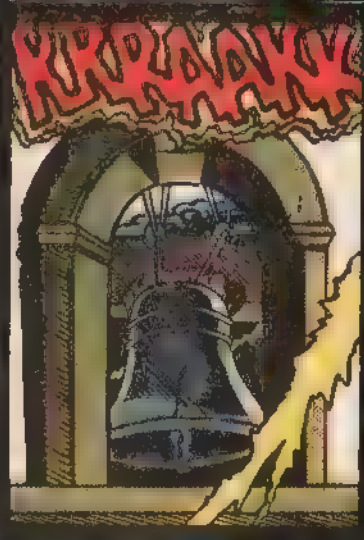


AIN'T IT THE TRUTH!

SURE, I COULD FLY AWAY LIKE A LITTLE BIRD--

DO NOT WORRY, HERR BARON, THE FRAULEIN CANNOT EVADE ME FOR LONG!

--BUT THAT'D LEAVE BELLE AT THE MERCY OF HANS AND FRITZ.



LAW FEELS-- LIKE IT COULD GO INTO TRACTION FOR A MONTH.

NOTHING BROKEN-- BUT I'M NOT GONNA BE-- MUCH GOOD TO HAWK GIRL FOR A MINUTE--

--WHICH MIGHT JUST BE-- THE SAME AS "NEVER".

YOU'RE GETTING WARMER!



AND YOU'LL LIE COLD IN YOUR GRAVE, WHEN I CATCH YOU.

OUTSKIRTS OF
PHILADELPHIA--
DEAD AHEAD!

YOU REALLY THINK SHE'S
MANAGED TO GET TO PHILLY--
AND BARON BLITZKRIEG--
AHEAD OF US
SOMEHOW?

I'D LAY ODDS ON IT! LIBBY LAWRENCE IS ONE
DETERMINED LADY--AND I WAS OUT COLD FOR
NEARLY AN HOUR

BUT HOW'S
SHE GONNA MIX IT
UP WITH BLITZ AND
ZYKLON--WITH NO
EXTRA POWERS BUT
A LITTLE ADRENALINE?

SOUNDS LIKE
THOSE LIGHTNING-
BOLTS UP THERE ARE
HITTING CLOSER TO
HOME EVERY TIME--
JUST LIKE ZYKLON!

BELLE MIGHT KNOW
WHAT'LL HAPPEN
WHEN ONE HITS--
BUT I'M JUST
RUNNING
INTERFERENCE
HERE

KRRAK KIKKI

NOW, GANGWAY.
IT'S YOUR BOSS
I'M AFTER!

ACH! IF
ONLY I HAD
ENOUGH ROOM
TO CREATE A
PROPER
WINDWIND--!

DON'T CRY IN
YOUR BEER
BUDDY. YOU'RE
PRETTY WINDY
AS IT IS!

GOT TO
GIVE BELLE
HER SHOT ...

YOU DARE
CHARGE
STRAIGHT
AT ME?!

ZYKLON--NEIN!

SURELY,
THE STRAIN
HAS CRACKED
YOUR MIND

DON'T
YOU SEE?
SHE MUST
WANT TO--

WHAAAA

OHMM--!

UNNN--!

HEADS UP, JOHNNY!
THAT'S GOT TO BE
THE CHURCH ZWERG
TOLD YOU ABOUT!

GOOD GRAVY! THAT
STEEPLE'S DRAWING
LIGHTNING LIKE
MONEY DRAWS FLIES!

PLEASE--
DEAR GOD--
DON'T LET HER
BE DEAD! DON'T
LET HER BE--

--DEAD!

THAT'S WHAT
YOU'LL BE, WOMAN--
AS SOON AS THE
STORM HAS DONE
ITS WORK

NOW, LIGHTNING!
STRIKE--NOW!

SHIRRA SACRIFICED
HERSELF--SO I'D HAVE
A CHANCE AT BLITZKRIEG--
WITHOUT ZYKLON
STOPPING ME

FROM HERE
ON--IT'S UP TO
LIBERTY
BELLE!

IT'S JUST YOU AND ME NOW, MURDERER!

MEIN! DO NOT
TOUCH THOSE
COILS!

JUST ONE
MORE MOMENT
- I CAN FEEL IT!

HOLY TOLEDO!
THE CHURCH
TOWER!

IT'S
BEING
STRUCK
BY--

--"LIGHTNING!"

CONTINUED ON 3RD PAGE FOLLOWING

ANOTHER BIG HIT FROM BONKERS! THE BONKERS! BIKE BAG.

FRUIT CANDY

Bonkers! hits you again—with this fun new bike bag. It attaches to the front or back of your bike, and you can only get it from Bonkers! Bonkers! comes in 3 chewy fruity flavors—strawberry, grape, and orange. Bonkers! is so superfruity, Bonkers! bonks you out!



**GET A
BONKERS!
BIKE BAG
FOR \$2.95
AND 3
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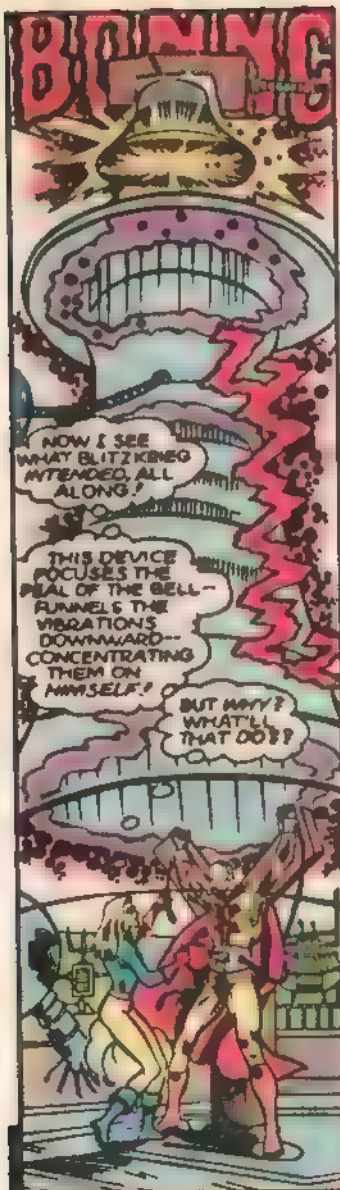
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THE SAVING PLACE

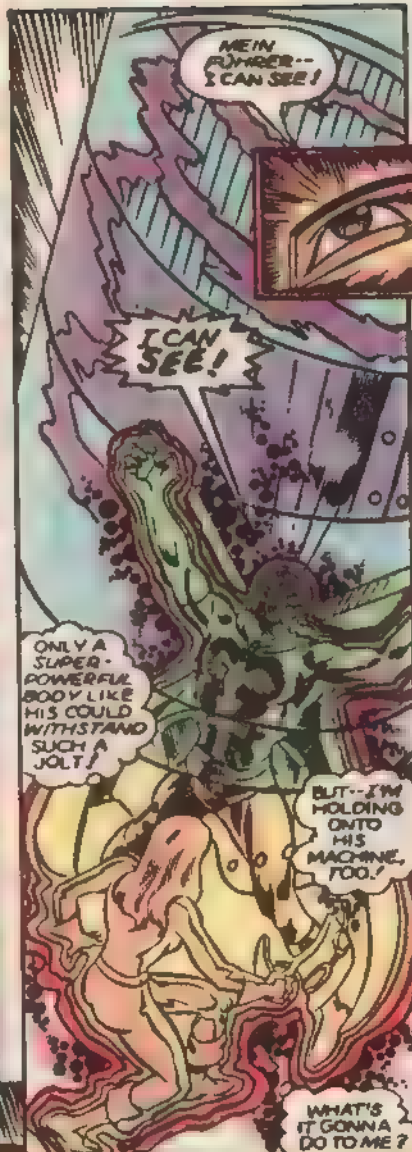
STORES!



NOW I SEE
WHAT BLITZWING
INTENDED, ALL
ALONG!

THIS DEVICE
FOCUSES THE
PEAL OF THE BELL--
FUNNELS THE
VIBRATIONS
DOWNWARD--
CONCENTRATING
THEM ON
HIMSELF!

BUT WHY?
WHAT'LL
THAT DO?



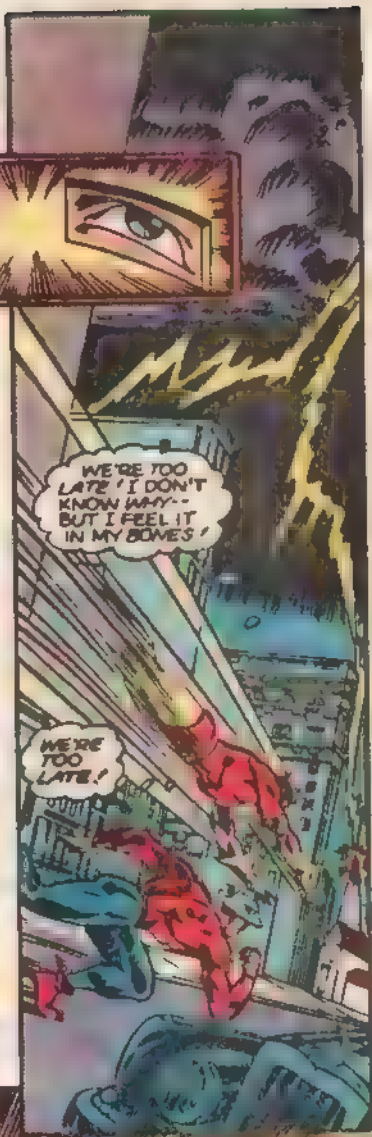
MEIN
FÜRER--
I CAN SEE!

I CAN
SEE!

ONLY A
SUPER-
POWERFUL
BODY LIKE
HIS COULD
WITHSTAND
SUCH A
JOLT!

BUT--I'M
HOLDING
ONTO
HIS
MACHINE,
TOO!

WHAT'S
IT GONNA
DO TO ME?



WE'RE TOO
LATE! I DON'T
KNOW WHY--
BUT I FEEL IT
IN MY BONES!

WE'RE
TOO
LATE!

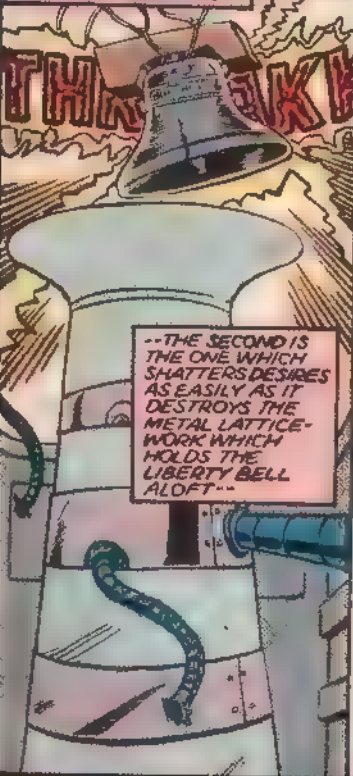


DO YOU HEAR
ME? I CAN
SEE!

ARR

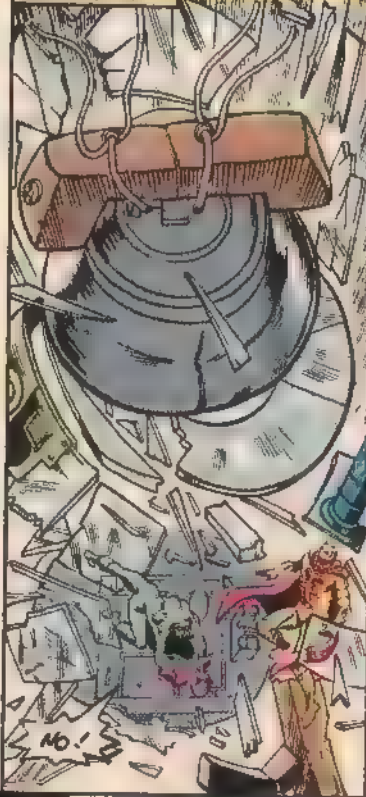
RRG

IF THE FIRST BOLT WAS THE ONE FOR WHICH BARON BLITZKRIEG WAS TRULY LOOKING--



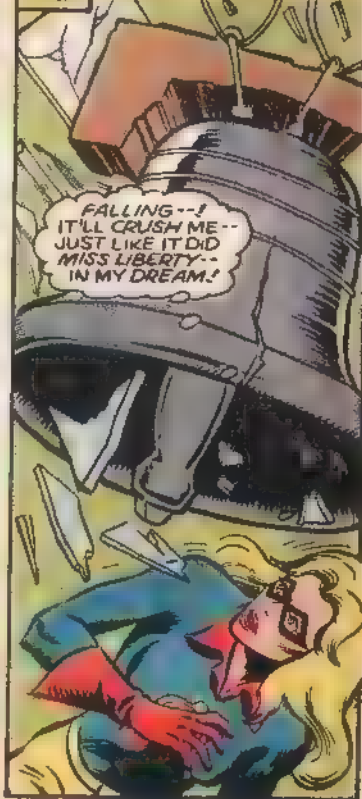
--THE SECOND IS THE ONE WHICH SHATTERS DESIRES AS EASILY AS IT DESTROYS THE METAL LATTICE-WORK WHICH HOLDS THE LIBERTY BELL ALOFT--

--SO THAT IT TOPPLES MASSIVELY EARTHWARD--

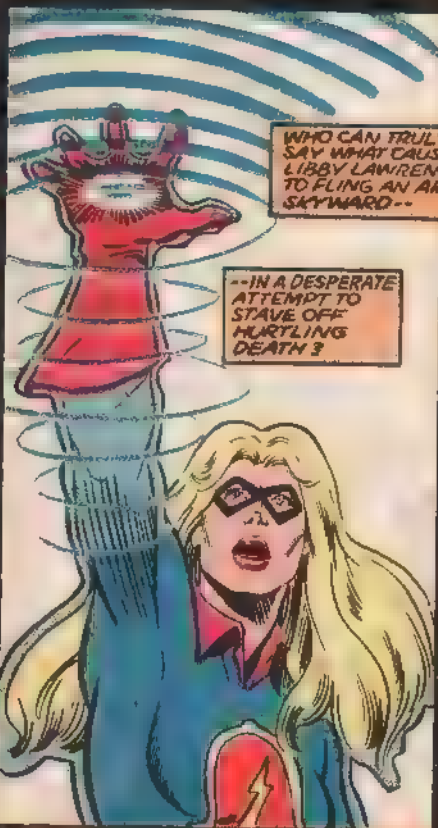


NO!

--TOWARD ITS MORTAL COUNTERPART--



FALLING--! IT'LL CRUSH ME-- JUST LIKE IT DID MISS LIBERTY-- IN MY DREAM!



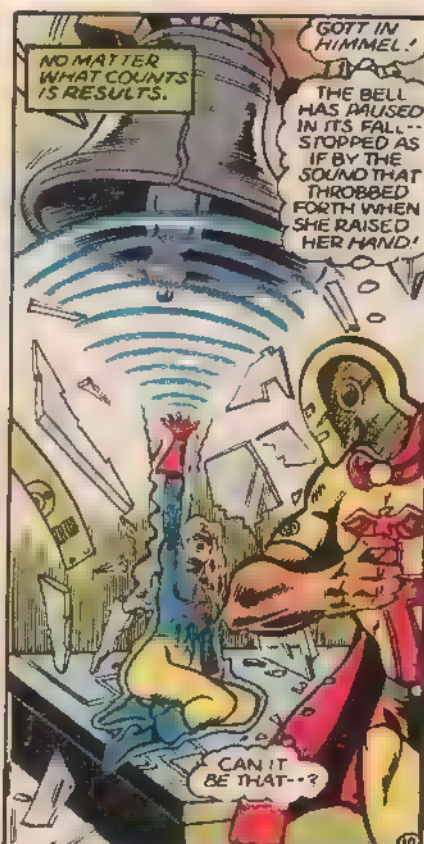
WHO CAN TRULY SAY WHAT CAUSES LIBBY LAWRENCE TO FLING AN ARM SKYWARD--

--IN A DESPERATE ATTEMPT TO STAVE OFF HURTLING DEATH?



WAS--?

WHAT THE HELL--?



NO MATTER WHAT COUNTS IS RESULTS.

GOTT IN HIMMEL!

THE BELL HAS PAUSED IN ITS FALL-- STOPPED AS IF BY THE SOUND THAT THROBBED FORTH WHEN SHE RAISED HER HAND!

CAN IT BE THAT--?

IS IT MERELY A REFLEX ACTION?

PERHAPS THE GOOD BARON WOULD HAVE BEEN BETTER OFF TRYING TO FIGURE OUT WHICH OF HIS SUPER-POWERS TO USE FOR NEXT MOMENT--

GOOD LORD! WHERE ARE THESE WEIRD SONIC PULSES COMING FROM? INSIDE ME, EVIDENTLY!

SOMEHOW, THEY-- I-- HALTED THE BELL IN MIDAIR. NOW TO SEE-- IF I'VE GOT THE POWER TO HURL IT AWAY, AGAIN-- WHERE I WANT IT TO GO.

WELL, WHAT DO YOU KNOW? OBVIOUSLY, I DO.

AAAAGGGH--!

MMMMMMMMMMMM

ENJOY YOUR FLEETING TRIUMPH, FRAULEIN. IT SHALL VANISH LIKE A BUBBLE WHEN I SMASH YOU--

--JUST AS I LET THAT DECREPIT OLD FOOL BE SQUASHED YESTERDAY.

--LET'S SEE HOW YOU TAKE-- TO THIS!

YOU FILTHY, MURDERING SCUM--

DONNERWETTER!

JOHNNY! IS THAT--?

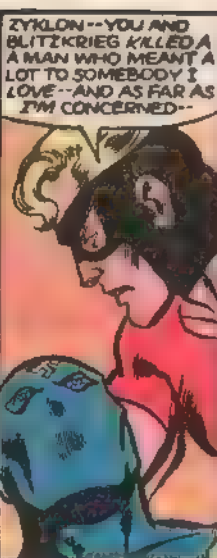
DER ZYKLON!



THEN MAYBE IT'S ABOUT TIME HE HAD A MORE FORMAL WELCOME TO THE GOOD OL' U.S. OF A..

YOU?!

YOU'LL HAVE TO EXCUSE ME, FLASH, IF I CAN'T MAKE LIGHT OF WHAT THIS NAZI LOUSE DID.

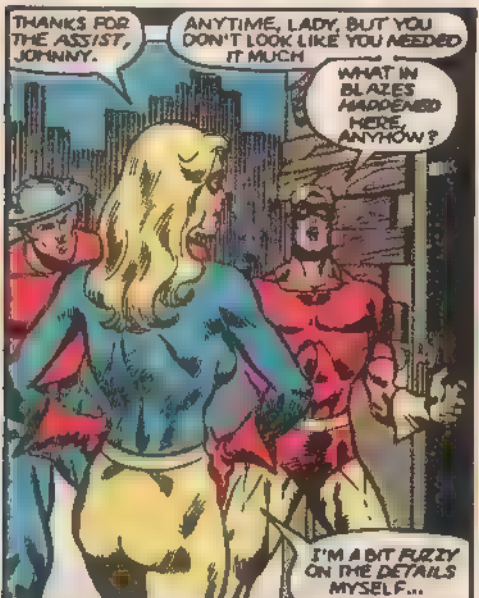


ZYKLON---YOU AND BLITZKRIEG KILLED A MAN WHO MEANT A LOT TO SOMEBODY I LOVE--AND AS FAR AS I'M CONCERNED--



---YOU'LL BE LUCKY IF YOU EVER LEAVE THIS BUILDING ALIVE!

UNNNNNNN--!



THANKS FOR THE ASSIST, JOHNNY.

ANYTIME, LADY, BUT YOU DON'T LOOK LIKE YOU NEEDED IT MUCH

WHAT IN BLAZES HAPPENED HERE, ANYHOW?

I'M A BIT FIZZY ON THE DETAILS MYSELF...



...BUT NEAR AS I CAN MAKE OUT, BLITZ FIGURED OUT THAT THE AMPLIFIED VIBRATIONS OF THE LIBERTY BELL WOULD RESTORE HIS LOST SIGHT.

THEY DID, SO I GUESS HE WAS RIGHT--THOUGH I CAN'T FOR THE LIFE OF ME FIGURE OUT HOW--

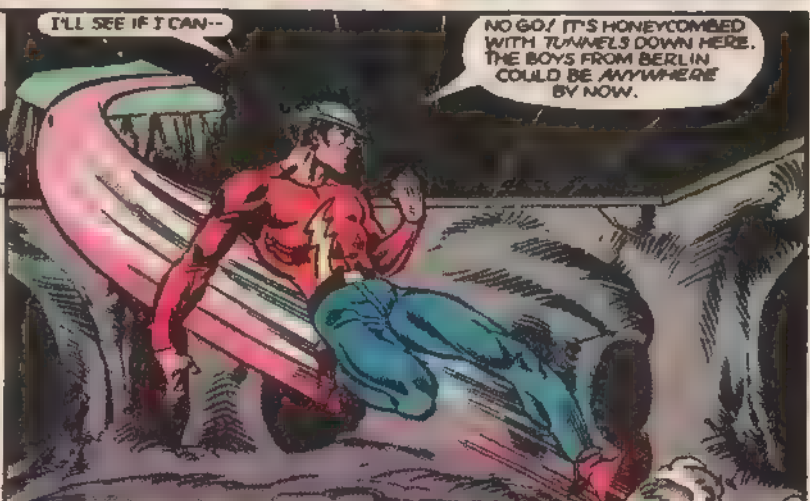
BLITZKRIEG! ZYKLON! WHERE ARE THEY?!

I KNOCKED SPEEDY TWO SHOES OVER BEHIND THE BELL...



WELL, THEY'RE NOT HERE NOW.

LOOKS LIKE BLITZIE TORE A HOLE IN THE FLOOR AND TOOK A POWDER.



I'LL SEE IF I CAN--

NO GO! IT'S HONEYCOMBED WITH TUNNELS DOWN HERE. THE BOYS FROM BERLIN COULD BE ANYWHERE BY NOW.

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G U E S T

MEANWHILE

BEN ODA REMEMBERED

BY ANDREW HELFER

You probably never thought twice about Ben Oda. He was never interviewed by the fanzines. He was never the guest of honor at a comics convention. Fans never begged him for his autograph. The spotlight never touched him. And there's probably a very good reason for that. Ben Oda was neither writer nor artist nor comic book creator. He was just one of the hundreds of people who put the finishing touches on comics. Ben Oda was, to put it simply, a letterer.

But Ben Oda had a fan club. An exclusive group. We kept its very existence a secret. Instead of calling it "The Ben Oda Fan Club," we called it DC Comics. To us, Ben was not only our favorite comic book letterer; he was also our favorite human being. And when he passed away a few weeks ago, we all became acutely aware of a space in our lives that would never again be filled.

Ben Oda was one of an ever-dwindling group of comic book professionals—the "old timers." He worked on comics in their infancy, through their heyday, and right into the present. In the forties, his distinctive lettering style graced the pages of Jack Kirby's early work. In the fifties, when Harvey Kurtzman needed hand-lettering for his now-famous EC war comics, Ben was the man asked to

do it. He was a letterer for the Chicago Tribune and King Features Syndicate, regularly turning out pages of Prince Valiant, Little Orphan Annie, The Phantom, and others too numerous to mention. And until mere days before he left us, Ben was also the most prolific letterer working at DC Comics.

Those are the facts—they're easy to tell. What's harder to explain is the way Ben touched us all—every day of his life.

Among other letterers, Ben was the acknowledged master—I remember Tom Orzekowski's delight over being introduced to him some years ago; and Bob Lappan literally studied Ben's work with a comprehensiveness that Ben found both flattering and confusing. He never quite understood why anyone would give his work a second glance—as far as he was concerned, his job was simply to make the writer and artist look as good as possible.

And that's exactly what Ben did so well—twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, or so it seemed. Ben would come into the DC offices every day at four-thirty in the afternoon (you could set your clock to it) with a staggering number of lettered pages. If you had a book that needed to be lettered overnight, you just gave it to Ben. Truth to tell, we took him for granted. He was the ultimate pinch-hitter, and he got the DC team out of more than one deadline jam. But, like most pinch-hitters, he seldom received the praise he deserved.

And as much as we'd all like to believe otherwise, Ben was no speed demon. He'd work long hours, sit

hunched over his drawing board late into the night, all to meet what he undoubtedly felt was a personal commitment to a friend. Sometimes, in his desire to please and help out, he would push himself too far, and the strain would show. Often, the results were hilarious. Once in a while, Batman might "fight a war on crime," and Superman might be referred to as "The Man of Steel." We'd laugh together over Ben's occasional blooper, and seldom think about the sleepless nights he'd put in just to get the job finished. Again, we took him for granted.

But when the job was finally done, Ben would sit himself down in one editorial office or another and just shoot the breeze. This was where you really got to know and appreciate Ben. He could talk about practically anything—World War II and his time in the service (he was a paratrooper, a spy, and a part-time baseball player), his memories of comic book pros he'd worked with in the past, his family, the performance of various players on his Monday night bowling team, and the current state of the comic book field. All his stories and opinions were delivered with such a keen sense of humor that you couldn't help but laugh.

But there was more to Ben than just that. When Ben told a story, he became a kind of Japanese Will Rogers, a homespun humorist with a shy smile that could melt ice. Dozens of wrinkles etched into his face, laugh lines mingling with the ones that simply come with age, Ben often seemed like an ancient yet humane sage, always aware of the humor in life, and enjoying every minute of it. You had only to talk to Ben to see that this was true. His eyes would sparkle with life, and in an almost mystical transference, our eyes would sparkle too.

And perhaps, when all is said and done, this was the most wonderful thing about Ben—his uncanny ability to make us smile, to make us laugh, to lift us out of our late-afternoon doldrums with a simple anecdote or tall tale—to simply be Ben. These were his gifts to us, these were the things we took for granted, and these are the things we will miss the most.

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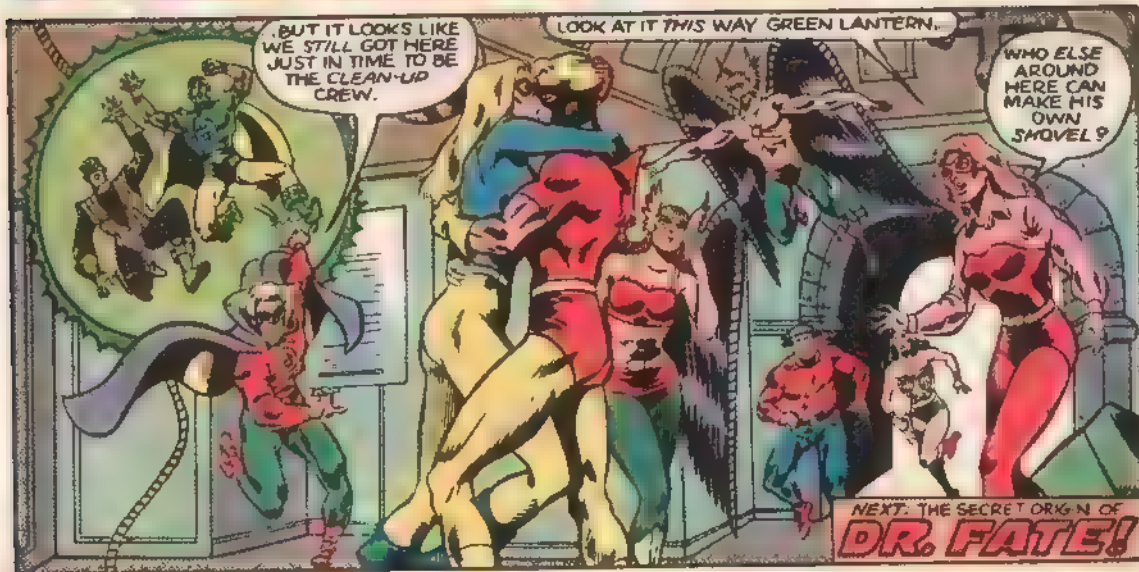
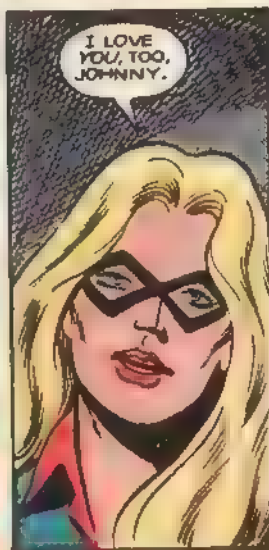
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last revealed!

- ☐ Action Comics 568: In one of two stories, a magician's illusions go haywire!
- ☐ Detective Comics 551: More Darknight danger with the Batman, and all-out action with Green Arrow!
- ☐ World's Finest 316: Cheapjack strikes again, but are Batman and Superman ready for him?
- ☐ All-Star Squadron 46: Are super-powers in store for Liberty Belle?

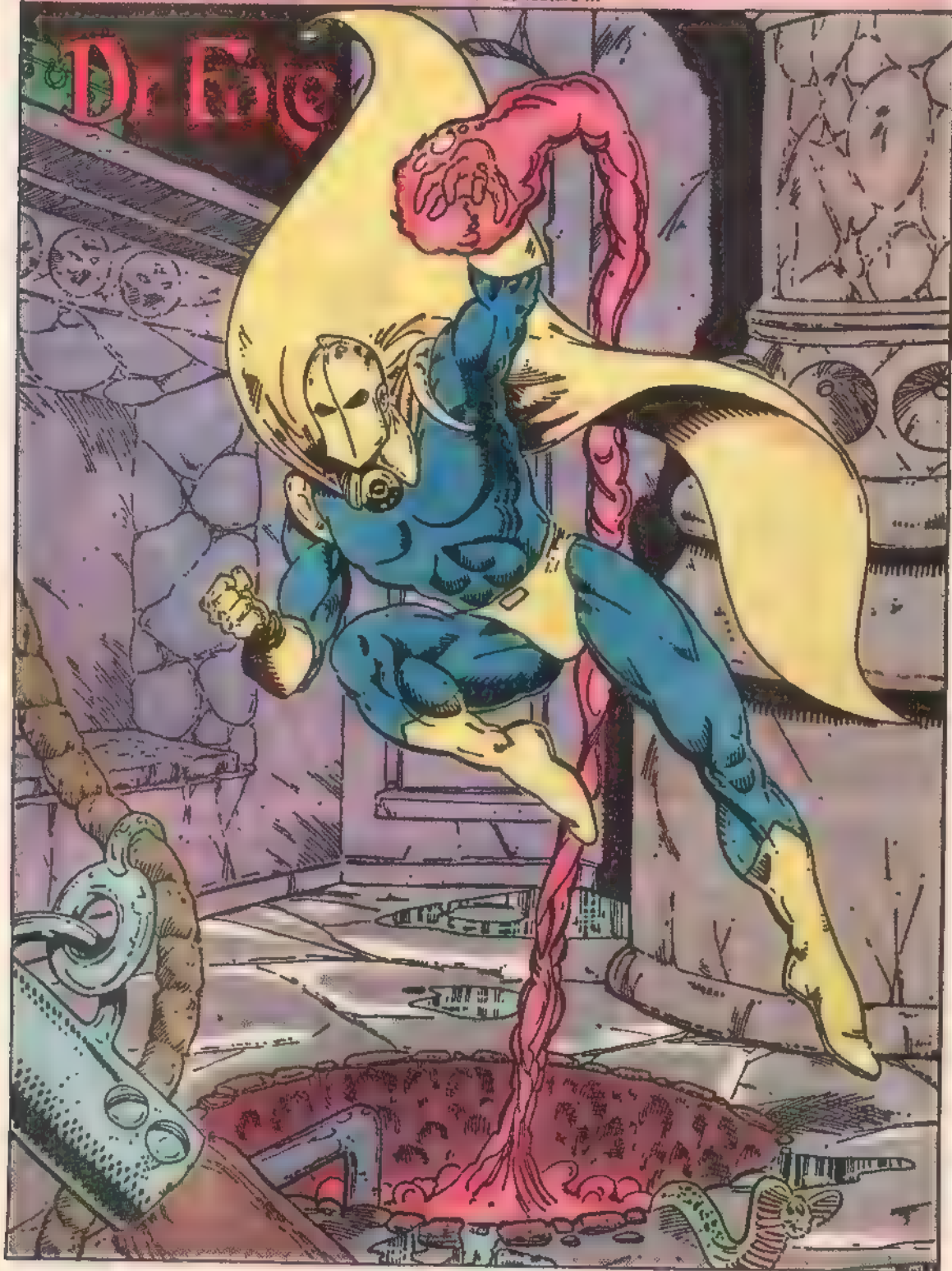
- ☐ Arion 32: Arion learns the 100,000-year-old secret of his past!
- ☐ Jonah Hex 91: Jonah becomes involved with a rodeo queen!
- ☐ V73: Can the Rebels stop a scientist from blowing up both himself and their plans?
- ☐ Sun Devils 12: The long-awaited final chapter with the ultimate fate of the Starcrusher!
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☐ Tales of the Legion 324: The mind-boggling secret of the Dark Circle is at



GOLDEN AGE GALLERY

Next issue, a special rendering by INFINITY, INC. penciler *Todd McFarlane* of the origin of Dr. Fate—as well as his first encounter with Inza Kramer and the villain called Wotan! Meanwhile, savor and enjoy this illustration of the mystic master by *Dan Jurgens*, current scripter/artist of DC's deluxe *SUN DEVILS* feature ...!





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SPECIAL NOTE: Because our complementary mini-series, *AMERICA VS. THE JUSTICE SOCIETY*, ended too quickly to contain any letters pages, we thought we'd set aside this issue for a few random comments on the first two issues, leaving mail on *ALL-STAR SQUADRON* #41-42 for next time. (We'll cover JSA #3-4 in a near-future *SQUADRON*, too.)

—Roy Thomas.

Dear Roy & Rafael,

At last! The Justice Society back in action! Not World War Two adventures with the *ALL-STAR SQUADRON* (which—don't get me wrong—I read faithfully), but a brand-new story set in the Earth-Two present. Who could ask for anything more? I could. Please, oh, PLEASE give the JSA their own monthly title! Make it a deluxe format book, like *INFINITY, INC.* What do you say?

Jim Keel
77 Faircrest Dr.
Hutchinson, KS 67502

Dear Roy, Rafael, and Alfredo,

AMERICA VS. THE JUSTICE SOCIETY #1 was a written masterpiece, which also had the best quality artwork and the finest research I have seen in any comic in a long time. The thought of the Batman, the most "straight" super-hero in the business, writing a diary full of lies about the JSA, and then having it sent to a fellow JSAer (Superman, a.k.a. Clark Kent) blows the mind. All I can say is—no one but you, Mr. Thomas, no one but you. Still, while your Kree/Skrull war in Marvel's *The Avengers*, your work on both *The X-Men* and *The Invaders*, and presently your work on *ALL-STAR SQUADRON* and *INFINITY, INC.* has all been excellent (and oftentimes unusual), this tops them all. A reader, even one who hasn't been around for as many years reading comics as I have, can tell when a writer is really putting his best quality work into a comic, and when he is slacking off. Right now, with but the first issue in hand, I can tell you this is the start of an epic which will be honored in future years as much as Jack Kirby's *NEW GODS*, Marvel's *Secret Wars*, and others are honored today.

Mark S. Mellor
12970 W. Montana Dr.
Lakewood, CO 80228

Dear Sirs,

The Welsh Christian name is spelt "Del," not "Die" as on the cover of your second issue. Besides, the character at whom the Spectre is pointing is named "William Hopkins" inside the comic. This is all very puzzling. [Thanks for the humor, led. As you doubtless knew, the word "or" was accidentally left off by our printer, though it did appear in the proper place in ads.—R.T.]

Frank McWright
Michael Joseph Ltd.
44 Bedford Square
London WC1B 3DU, England

Roy Thomas:

STOP! Please tell me it's not true! *AMERICA VS. JSA* #2, page 30, last panel: "And the Spectre is seen no more among men." NO, ROY! I've loved E-2 heroes from the beginning, and you're the best with them and for them. But the Spectre's my favorite! Please do a graphic novel about the Spectre, but don't send him away forever. *PuhLEASSSE!* (We just meant he was seen no more at that time—not forever.—R.T.)

David Newman
(No Address on Letter)

Dear Roy,

This mini-series will definitely confirm you as the official custodian of DC Earth-Two history. *ALL-STAR SQUADRON ... INFINITY, INC ...* and now *AMERICA VS. THE JUSTICE SOCIETY*. Great plot twists, Roy. We've got not one, but two possible red herrings: A.K. O'Fallon and the Wizard. And the two people who loved Batman the most on opposite sides of the issues. I'm sure the clues are here, and there will be more in the upcoming three issues, so I'll see if I can crack this little mystery before you spring it on us.

Willie Holmes
8453 S. Baginaw Ave.
Chicago, IL 60617

Dear Roy Thomas,

I am fascinated with Earth-Two heroes, but I had my reservations about getting the new mini-series *AMERICA VS. THE JUSTICE SOCIETY* because I

am more interested in *ALL-STAR SQUADRON*. But I decided to pick it up anyway It is not possible to accuse the JSA of treason. Let me explain why. Even though this is Earth-Two, I doubt there is considerable difference between its and our earth's American Constitution. Article 3, Section 3, Clause 1 states, "Treason against the United States shall consist only in levying War against them, or in adhering to their Enemies, giving them Aid and Comfort. No Person shall be convicted of Treason unless on the Testimony of two Witnesses to the same overt Act, or on Confession in Open Court." Keeping this in mind, it would be impossible to convict the JSA of treason because there aren't any witnesses to testify against them. The Wizard does not count because I don't believe he ever witnessed such acts of treason. Even if he did, he's only one witness. Of course, because it was too difficult to convict someone of treason, a lesser form of treason, called espionage, was developed. Still, although it is easier to convict someone of espionage, I do not believe that is possible either, in this case. Check out Article 3, Section 2, for yourself and make your own determination about my points. Other than the above points, everything is going great! [And since a Congressional hearing is not really a trial, friend, it's all kind of academic anyway, isn't it? Hopkins, O'Fallon, et al. just wanted to discredit the JSA.—R.T.]

David Barnes
4 Maplewood Ct.
Greenbelt, MD 20770

Dear Roy,

Just got a copy of *AMERICA VS. THE JUSTICE SOCIETY* and had to send in my congrats on the series. Rewriting and correlating some forty-plus years of hero history is a pretty demanding undertaking as it is, but to make an exciting and convincing story out of it (chaptered into monthly fractions) makes it a real four-color triumph that will become the definitive continuity writer's reference for years to come. Kudos to you and Dann (and a large bottle of aspirins to boot). As for the art, Alfredo Alcalá's inks complemented Rich Buckler's and Rafael Kayanan's styles so as to give the pages a smooth, less static look than some Jams I've seen. I've never followed Kayanan's work in *FIRESTORM*, but I was im-

pressed by his work on the JSA. His faithful reproduction of memorable JSA panels and montages shows he's willing to put forth the effort it takes to illustrate characters that need careful research.

G. Barry Banks
2125 Penelope St. NW
Atlanta, GA

Dear Roy,

For many years you have been one of my favorites in the comics field. Your work is normally top quality, and details are always carefully thought-out. Your JSA mini-series is sharp. Although I've read only #1, I believe it to be your finest work of 1984. Thanks for the top-notch story.

Terry Cannon
2821 S.E. 46
Oklahoma City, OK 73129



DO YOU KNOW WHERE YOUR CHILDREN ARE?

THE HEROES OF THE *JUSTICE SOCIETY* DO.
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